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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION WHEREAS, The federal farm bill impacts all Illinoisans; 2 3 agriculture represents a vital part of both rural and urban 4 economies; and 5 WHEREAS, There is growing consumer demand from Illinois citizens for locally and regionally-produced farm and food 6 7 products; and 8 WHEREAS, There is growing farmer and entrepreneur interest 9 in meeting the consumer demand for local and regional farm and 10 food products; and WHEREAS, Local and regional food economies are a vital 11 12 source of employment in our communities; and 13 WHEREAS, Supporting public health and protecting our environment are essential to the viability and livability of 14 15 our communities and our economy; and 16 WHEREAS, Communities throughout Illinois face multiple 17 health, social, and environmental issues connected to food, including hunger, malnutrition, increasing incidences of 18

obesity, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and other chronic

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diseases; and

- 1 WHEREAS, Increased access to healthy food is an important
- 2 tool for communities to address the multifaceted health,
- 3 social, and environmental issues connected to food; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Access to healthy food is increased when local and
- 5 regional community-based food production, processing,
- 6 aggregation, distribution, and retail work together to build
- 7 markets for healthy food; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The policies, programs, and funding included in
- 9 the 2012 Farm Bill will affect how successful Illinois
- 10 communities can be in developing local and regional food
- 11 systems that advance the goals of environmental
- 12 sustainability, economic development, public health, racial
- and social justice, and emergency preparedness; therefore, be
- 14 it
- 15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 16 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
- 17 urge Congress to adopt a farm bill that supports and promotes
- 18 the development of local and regional food systems; and be it
- 19 further
- 20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
- 21 delivered to President Donald Trump, U.S. Senate Majority

- 1 Leader Mitch McConnell, U.S. Senate Minority Leader Chuck
- Schumer, U.S. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, U.S. House of
- 3 Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, and all members
- 4 of the Illinois Congressional Delegation.